



NEWS RELEASE

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**STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION BEGINS \$9 MILLION PROJECT
TO IMPROVE HARFORD ROAD IN PARKVILLE**

*Two-Mile "Parkville Streetscape" Project Will Enhance Highway Safety, Traffic Operations
and Aesthetics in Baltimore County between the Baltimore City Line and Joppa Road*

(August 3, 2007) -- The Maryland State Highway Administration is beginning its \$9 million "Parkville Streetscape" project to improve highway safety, traffic operations and aesthetics along two miles of MD 147 (Harford Road) between the Baltimore City Line and Joppa Road.

The Harford Road project includes: pavement grinding, patching, and resurfacing; replacement of sidewalks where needed; construction of Americans with Disabilities Act-compatible sidewalks and ramps; new curbs, gutters, and drainage system improvements; corridor landscaping and brick accents; creation of "pocket parks" and installation of community signs; installation of new street furniture, and landscaping. The project also includes slight widening at the Putty Hill Road intersection and upgrades to existing traffic signals to include audible pedestrian signals and digital crossing time countdown signals.

During the next two years, daytime lane closures along Harford Road may occur anytime between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Nighttime lane closures may occur anytime between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday. The project will be done in a series of five-block phases, beginning with the northbound side of Harford Road followed by the southbound side. Streetscape construction work will start in a northerly direction with the first section between Hillcrest Avenue and Linwood Avenue. On-street parking along Harford Road will be restricted during construction on each five-block section. Construction work is slated for completion in Spring 2009, weather permitting.

Beginning this month, SHA will host a series of community meetings to update area residents, business owners and community leaders on the progress of the streetscape project. The kickoff meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 20 at the Parkville Senior Center, 8601 Harford Road.

(More)

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The State's contractor for the Harford Road project is Rustler Construction of Lanham, Maryland. SHA and the contractor appreciate the community's understanding and patience during the construction process, and remind all travelers to look ahead for temporary traffic signs, changed travel patterns, and construction personnel and equipment throughout the work zone.

For more information about the Harford Road project, citizens may call SHA's local project field office in Parkville at 410-665-7441 or call SHA's District 4 Office – Construction Division at 410-321-2820 or toll- free at 1-800-962-3077.

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